

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 9-28 were pending prior to the Final Office Action. In this Amendment, claims 17, 19, 20 and 21 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, claims 9-16, 18 and 22-28 are pending. Claims 9 and 13 are independent.

A. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants appreciate that claims 21-24 and 28 are indicated to define allowable subject matter.

B. CLAIM OBJECTION

Claims 17, 25 and 26 stand objected to for informalities. These claims are amended as the Examiner suggests. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the claims be withdrawn.

C. PATENTABILITY OF CLAIMS

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 9-20 and 25-27 based on Endo et al. (JP 2002-072662 A) individually or in combination with Kawai et al. (JP 09-068869 A) or with Kamezaki et al. (JP 63-271487 A). In this response, the features of claim 21 which is indicated to include allowable

subject matter along with features of intervening claims 17, 19 and 20 are incorporated into independent claim 9. Therefore, claim 9 is allowable.

Claims 10-12 and 22-27 by virtue of their dependencies from claim 9 are also allowable.

Independent claim 13 is amended to incorporate features of claims 17, 19, 20 and 21. Therefore, claim 13 and claims 14-16 dependent thereon are allowable.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejections based on Endo et al., Kawai et al. and Kamezaki et al. be withdrawn.

D. CONCLUSION

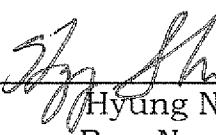
All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Hyung Sohn (Reg. No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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